



State of Connecticut
HOUSE REPUBLICAN OFFICE

STATE CAPITOL
HARTFORD, CONN. 06106

Testimony in Support of HB 5749
Public Safety and Security Committee
February 7, 2013

Chairpersons Hartley and Dargan, Ranking Members Guglielmo and Giegler, and distinguished members of the Public Safety and Security Committee, We appreciate the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **House Bill 5749, *An Act Concerning Revisions to the State Building Code.***

This proposal was brought to our attention by the industry professionals. The proposal seeks to provide stability in the home building sector of our economy by providing consistency when interpreting building codes. Under current law, the State Building Inspector and the Codes and Standards Committee are required to revise the State Building Code within 18 months following the release of new codes. Unfortunately, the state has been slow in adopting new codes. CT is one of the few states that pick and choose code amendments where most states just adopt the new codes in entirety.

By providing a longer code cycle, the state can adopt more meaningful and thorough codes. The current practice of delaying the adoption of codes does little to provide the stable groundwork needed for the industry to build with confidence. Additionally, a longer code cycle could provide some cost savings to municipalities by reducing training costs and material expenses for new code versions.

We appreciate the committee's time in considering this bill and we urge you to adopt a cycle which will provide workable codes for the building industry. We look forward to working with you in moving this along in the legislative.